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In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Motor vehicle door lock with latching elements comprising:  
a latch;  
a ratchet; and  
a lock mechanism, the lock mechanism further comprising a drive having a drive motor  
and an actuating element driven by the drive motor, and  
a step-down gearing located between the drive motor and the actuating element,  
wherein the ratchet is raisable by the drive motor via the actuation actuating element, the  
ratchet being positioned so that the ratchet, viewed [[in]] as part of a kinematic chain of force  
transmitting elements beginning at [[from]] the drive motor, to the actuating element, engages  
the drive so as to block the drive [[it]] at a location in the chain before the actuating element and  
without directly engaging the actuating element, a lower blocking torque being imposed on the  
ratchet at said location than would result from blocking engagement produced by the ratchet at  
the actuating element.
2. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a step-  
down gearing located between the drive motor and the actuating element.
3. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the step-down  
gearing further comprises a worm wheel and a worm in driving connection with the worm  
wheel.
4. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratchet is raised  
by a motor actuating the actuating element and wherein the actuating element has an  
engagement arrangement for engaging the ratchet.
5. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 4, wherein the engagement  
arrangement is symmetrical over the adjustment area of the actuating element.

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6. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 4, wherein the engagement arrangement comprises three elongated control cams that protrude from the center of the actuating element.

7. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 5, wherein the engagement arrangement comprises two elongated control cams that protrude from the center of the actuating element.

8. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the worm wheel comprises a stop and wherein the stop, after the ratchet is moved into the raised position for blocking the drive, runs against the ratchet.

9. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the worm comprises a stop and wherein the stop, after the ratchet is moved into the raised position for blocking the drive, runs against the ratchet.

10. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 9, wherein the drive between the drive motor and the actuating element is a single-stage gearing.

11. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 8, wherein a line of action of the striking force runs through an axis of the ratchet when the drive is being blocked.

12. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 9, wherein a line of action of the striking force runs through an axis of the ratchet when the drive is being blocked.

13. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the worm wheel is coupled to the actuating element such that three revolutions of the worm wheel correspond to one revolution of the actuating element.

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14. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the worm wheel is coupled to the actuating element such that two revolutions of the worm wheel correspond to one revolution of the actuating element.

15. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the worm wheel is coupled to the actuating element such that four revolutions of the worm wheel correspond to one revolution of the actuating element.

16. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the external teeth of the worm wheel have a first toothed segment for coupling to the drive motor and a second toothed segment for coupling to the actuating element.

17. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first and second toothed segments have a different diameter.

18. (Original) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a spring element coupled to the latch and to the ratchet such that the spring force acts on the ratchet in a direction of engagement and on the latch in a direction of an open position.

19. (Previously Presented) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratchet is formed of two parts, one of which produces said blocking of the drive.

20. (Currently Amended) Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 9, wherein the ratchet is formed of two parts, one of which produces said blocking of the drive

21. (Currently Amended) Drive for a motor vehicle door lock comprising:  
at least one displaceable operating element;  
a drive motor; and  
an actuating element, and  
a kinematic chain of force transmitting elements beginning at the drive motor and extending to the actuating element,

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wherein the at least one displaceable operating element is displaceable by the drive motor via the actuating element, wherein the at least one operating element is movable into an action area of the drive for blocking continued motion of the drive by the operating element, and ~~wherein a coupling point of the operating element engaging one of the force transmitting elements of the kinematic chain~~ for blocking the drive at a location in said kinematic chain that is remote from the actuating element ~~viewed in a kinematic chain from the drive motor to the actuating element, lies in front of the actuating element.~~

22. (Cancelled).